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Chairman: Mr. Bródi ..... (Hungary)
Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions: Ms. McLurg

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Agenda item 131: Financing of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991 (*continued*)

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Closure of the work of the Fifth Committee at the main part of the sixty-third session of the General Assembly

The meeting was called to order on Wednesday, 24 December 2008, at 1.30 a.m.

Agenda item 116: Financial reports and audited financial statements, and reports of the Board of Auditors (*continued*) (A/C.5/63/L.8)

Draft resolution A/C.5/63/L.8: Financial reports and audited financial statements, and reports of the Board of Auditors

1. **Mr. Abelian** (Secretary of the Committee), referring to the final line of paragraph 8 of the draft resolution, said that the words "payment of their assessed contributions in full and on time" should be replaced by "payment of their assessed contributions in full, on time and without conditions".

2. *Draft resolution A/C.5/63/L.8, as orally corrected, was adopted.*

Agenda item 121: Pattern of conferences (*continued*) (A/C.5/63/L.15)

Draft resolution A/C.5/63/L.15: Pattern of conferences

3. *Draft resolution A/C.5/63/L.15 was adopted.*

Agenda item 122: Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations (*continued*) (A/C.5/63/L.14)

Draft resolution A/C.5/63/L.14: Unpaid assessed contributions of the former Yugoslavia

4. *Draft resolution A/C.5/63/L.14 was adopted.*

5. **Mr. Holovka** (Serbia) said that his delegation welcomed the settlement of the long-standing issue of the unpaid assessed contributions of the former Yugoslavia, believing that the solution reached was just, fair and in keeping with all legal norms and practices and the financial regulations and rules of the Organization. He recalled that the five successor States of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia were due to deliberate further, within the committee of financial experts operating under the auspices of the Working Group on Succession Issues, regarding the amounts to be reported to the Secretary-General pursuant to paragraph 3 of the draft resolution. That was also the forum in which to discuss the contribution of $3 million paid by the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, that is, Serbia and Montenegro, during the period following 27 April 1992, as well as the contributions of the other successor States during the same period.

6. In connection with paragraph 2 of the draft resolution, his delegation reiterated its position that it considered the amounts mentioned to be no more than accounting statistics, as no contributions should or could have been assessed on a State that did not exist.

Agenda item 123: Human resources management (*continued*) (A/C.5/63/L.22)

Draft resolution A/C.5/63/L.22: Human resources management

7. **Mr. Abelian** (Secretary of the Committee), referring to the first line of paragraph 6 of the draft resolution, said that the words "paragraph 10 above" should be replaced by "paragraph 5 above".

8. *Draft resolution A/C.5/63/L.22, as orally corrected, was adopted.*

Agenda item 125: United Nations common system (*continued*) (A/C.5/63/L.10)

Draft resolution A/C.5/63/L.10: United Nations common system: report of the International Civil Service Commission

9. *Draft resolution A/C.5/63/L.10 was adopted.*

Agenda item 126: United Nations pension system (*continued*) (A/C.5/63/L.7)

Draft resolution A/C.5/63/L.7: United Nations pension system

10. *Draft resolution A/C.5/63/L.7 was adopted.*

Agenda item 128: Report on the activities of the Office of Internal Oversight Services (*continued*) (A/C.5/63/L.28)

Agenda item 117: Review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations (*continued*) (A/C.5/63/L.28)

Draft resolution A/C.5/63/L.28: Reports of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on its activities

11. **Mr. Abelian** (Secretary of the Committee), referring to section I, paragraph 8, of the draft resolution, said that the words "in particular" should be replaced by the words "such as, inter alia,". In section I, paragraph 10, the word "and" should replace the

comma between 54/244 and 59/272. In section II, existing paragraphs 6 and 7 should be reversed.

12. The Committee had agreed on the draft resolution with the understanding that the term "takes note", with reference to the annual report of the Independent Audit Advisory Committee, meant the following: in the case of recommendations of the Independent Audit Advisory Committee relating to the Office of Internal Oversight Services, that the Committee might take note of them and request the Secretary-General to ensure their implementation; in the case of recommendations of the Independent Audit Advisory Committee relating to matters other than the Office of Internal Oversight Services, it was interpreted in accordance with General Assembly decision 55/488, by which the General Assembly decided that "takes note" meant neither approval not disapproval; and, in the case of recommendations of the Independent Audit Advisory Committee relating to the budget of the Office of Internal Oversight Services, given that those recommendations were submitted through the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, that the Committee would consider them in the context of the recommendations of the Advisory Committee at the appropriate time.

13. *Draft resolution A/C.5/63/L.28 was adopted.*

14. **Mr. Kovalenko** (Russian Federation), welcoming the consensus regarding the draft resolution on the reports of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on its activities, including the matter of arrangements for the winding-up of the Procurement Task Force, said that his delegation valued accountability, the proper functioning of oversight bodies and strict compliance with the rules and regulations of the Organization, including in the area of human resources management.

15. The recommendation of the Board of Auditors regarding incorporation into the permanent investigations system of the United Nations of the skills of the Procurement Task Force, referred to the Committee for its consideration, was not compatible with existing staff policy and could not be implemented. His delegation was pleased that the Committee had disagreed with the recommendation, and assumed that the staff of the Task Force would not in fact be incorporated into the Office of Internal Oversight Services, in violation of established procedures.

Agenda item 129: Administration of justice at the United Nations (*continued*) (A/C.5/63/L.17)

Draft resolution A/C.5/63/L.17: Administration of justice at the United Nations

16. **Mr. de Rijk** (Netherlands), coordinator of the informal consultations on the draft resolution, said that the Member States had approved paragraph 11 of the draft resolution on the understanding that its provisions would not give rise to any financial implications. In addition, referring to paragraph 46 of the draft resolution, he said that the words "article 2, paragraph 5, of the Statute of the United Nations Dispute Tribunal" should be replaced by the words "article 2, paragraph 7, of the Statute of the United Nations Dispute Tribunal".

17. *Draft resolution A/C.5/63/L.17, as orally corrected, was adopted.*

Agenda item 130: Financing of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994 (*continued*) (A/C.5/63/L.12 and A/C.5/63/L.13)

Agenda item 131: Financing of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991 (*continued*) (A/C.5/63/L.12 and A/C.5/63/L.16)

Draft resolution A/C.5/63/L.13: Financing of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994

18. *Draft resolution A/C.5/63/L.13 was adopted.*

Draft resolution A/C.5/63/L.16: Financing of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991

19. *Draft resolution A/C.5/63/L.16 was adopted.*

Draft resolution A/C.5/63/L.12: Comprehensive proposal on appropriate incentives to retain staff of the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda and the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia

20. *Draft resolution A/C.5/63/L.12 was adopted.*

Agenda item 139: Financing of the United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea (*continued*) (A/C.5/63/L.6)

Draft resolution A/C.5/63/L.6: Financing of the United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea

21. *Draft resolution A/C.5/63/L.6 was adopted.*

Agenda item 148: Financing of the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur (*continued*) (A/C.5/63/L.19)

Draft resolution A/C.5/63/L.19: Financing of the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur

22. *Draft resolution A/C.5/63/L.19 was adopted.*

23. **Mr. Yamazaki** (Controller), recalling that the resources appropriated by the General Assembly in its resolution 62/232 B for the period from 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009 amounted to $1,499,700,000, said that paragraph 5 of the draft resolution provided for the apportionment of $449,855,000 for the period from 1 January to 30 June 2009, resulting in a total assessment of $1,299,700,000 for the maintenance of the Operation for the period from 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009. As the level of the assessment was $200 million below the level of the appropriation, the Operation would need to be adequately financed through assessments on Member States so that it could implement its mandate in 2008/09.

24. Paragraph 8 of the draft resolution gave Member States that had fulfilled their financial obligations to the Operation the option to offset their respective shares of the unencumbered balance and other income of $225,443,200 relating to 2007/08 either against the apportionment of $449,855,000 relating to the period from 1 January to 30 June 2009, or against the apportionment for the Operation effective for 1 July 2009 to 30 June 2010, in accordance with usual practice. For Member States that had not fulfilled their financial obligations to the Operation, the treatment of the unencumbered balance and other income for the period ended 30 June 2008 would be dealt with in accordance with usual practice. As stipulated in paragraph 7 of the draft resolution, he would keep the matter under review to determine the additional assessment to be apportioned among Member States in due course. Noting the reduced level of assessment proposed in the draft resolution, he urged Member States to pay their assessments as expeditiously as possible.

Agenda item 118: Programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009 (*continued*) (A/C.5/63/L.9, A/C.5/63/L.11, A/C.5/63/L.18, A/C.5/63/L.20, A/C.5/63/L.21, A/C.5/63/L.23 and A/C.5/63/L.27)

Draft decision A/C.5/63/L.27

A: Programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.1/63/L.39: Towards an arms trade treaty: establishing common international standards for the import, export and transfer of conventional arms

B: Programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.3/63/L.33: Situation of human rights in Myanmar

C: Programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.3/63/L.46/Rev.1: Committee on the Rights of the Child

D: Programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.3/63/L.53/Rev.1: International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination

E: Programme budget implications of General Assembly resolution 63/3: Request for an advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on whether the unilateral declaration of independence of Kosovo is in accordance with international law

F: Programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.3/63/L.16/Rev.1: Rights of the Child

G: Programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.3/63/L.51/Rev.1: Global efforts for the total elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance and the comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action

H: Programme budget implications of draft resolution A/63/L.57: Doha Declaration on Financing for Development: outcome document of the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus

25. **Ms. Norman** (United States of America) said that her delegation was concerned by the allocation of resources under section A of the draft decision, relating to the programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.1/63/L.39, and requested a recorded vote on that section.

26. In respect of section C, on the programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.3/63/L.46/Rev.1, she regretted that her delegation had been unable to join the consensus because of the cost implications of holding additional meetings in order to reduce the backlog of reports. Nonetheless, she hoped that the section's provisions would help the Committee on the Rights of the Child review incoming reports more efficiently until an alternative source of funding could be found.

27. Her delegation also disassociated itself from the consensus on section D, relating to the programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.3/63/L.53/Rev.1, because of the cost implications of holding additional meetings in order to reduce the backlog of reports, which had become a persistent issue. While her country supported the work of the Committee on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, she urged that Committee to review its working methods in order to avoid future backlogs in reporting.

28. **Mr. Fluss** (Israel) that his delegation had been unable to join the consensus on section G of the draft decision, relating to the programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.3/63/L.51/Rev.1, as it was clear that the Durban Review Conference would be a reprise of its predecessor and would spawn virulent and intolerable expressions against his country. He therefore requested a recorded vote on section G of the draft decision.

29. **The Chairman** said that a recorded vote had been requested on section A of draft decision A/C.5/63/L.27.

30. **Ms. Norman** (United States of America), speaking in explanation of vote before the voting, said that her delegation would vote against the section. Recalling her delegation's statement on the matter before the First Committee, she said that, although her country supported the goals of promoting responsibility in arms transfers and the reduction of the destabilizing trade in illicit arms, the conclusion of a global arms trade treaty would not accomplish those goals. The only way to convince major arms exporters to agree to such a treaty would be to weaken its provisions. The conclusion of a weak treaty would legitimize an international standard based on a lowest common denominator, and doing so would not address the problem of illicit and irresponsible arms transfers.

31. *At the request of the representative of the United States of America, a recorded vote was taken on section A of draft decision A/C.5/63/L.27.*

In favour:

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Senegal, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

United States of America.

Abstaining:

Bahrain, Belarus, China, Egypt, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Israel, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Pakistan, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen.

32. *Section A of draft decision A/C.5/63/L.27 was adopted by 123 votes to 1, with 21 abstentions.**

33. **The Chairman** said that a recorded vote had been requested on section G of draft decision A/C.5/63/L.27.

34. **Ms. Norman** (United States of America), speaking in explanation of vote before the voting, said that the Durban Review Conference would duplicate the work of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination and the work of the Human Rights Council in relation to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. What was more, the work of the preparatory committee indicated that the Review Conference would be no different than its predecessor. Given the many pressing issues that were before the Organization, her delegation could not support such duplication of work at a time of limited resources.

35. *At the request of the representative of Israel, a recorded vote was taken on section G of draft decision A/C.5/63/L.27.*

In favour:

Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, France, Gabon, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Australia, Canada, Czech Republic, Israel, Netherlands, New Zealand, Poland, United States of America.

Abstaining:

Albania, Armenia, Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Georgia, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Montenegro, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

36. *Section G of draft decision A/C.5/63/L.27 was adopted by 112 votes to 8, with 28 abstentions.*

37. *Draft decision A/C.5/63/L.27 as a whole was adopted.*

Draft resolution A/C.5/63/L.9: Development-related activities

38. **Mr. Hunte** (Antigua and Barbuda), speaking on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, said that his delegation wished to withdraw draft resolution A/C.5/63/L.9.

39. *Draft resolution A/C.5/63/L.9 was withdrawn.*

* The delegations of Costa Rica and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland subsequently informed the Committee that they had intended to vote for the adoption of section A of the draft decision.

Draft resolution A/C.5/63/L.20: Development-related activities

40. *Draft resolution A/C.5/63/L.20 was adopted.*

41. **Mr. Abdelmannan** (Sudan) said that it was his delegation's understanding that, by paragraph 8 of draft resolution A/C.5/63/L.20, the Secretary-General was being requested as a matter of urgency to fill the vacant post of Special Adviser on Africa.

Draft resolution A/C.5/63/L.21: Strengthening of the Department of Political Affairs

42. **Mr. Abelian** (Secretary of the Committee), referring to the table annexed to draft resolution A/C.5/63/L.21, said that the entry regarding the redeployment of a D-2 post from the Americas Division, which currently appeared in the row designated "Asia and Pacific Division", should appear in the row designated "Office of the USG".

43. *Draft resolution A/C.5/63/L.21, as orally corrected, was adopted.*

Draft resolution A/C.5/63/L.18: Information and communications technology, enterprise resource planning, and security, disaster recovery and business continuity

44. **Mr. Abelian** (Secretary of the Committee), calling attention to the second preambular paragraph, said that the references to the notes by the Secretary-General on a common payroll for United Nations system organizations (A/60/582 and Add.1) and their corresponding footnotes should be deleted. In section I, paragraph 19, of the draft resolution, the words "paragraph 70" should be replaced by "paragraph 18". Turning to section IV, he said that the numbering of the existing paragraphs from paragraph 16 and onwards was incorrect and that, in new paragraph 17, the words "paragraph 12" should be replaced with the words "paragraph 13".

45. *Draft resolution A/C.5/63/L.18, as orally corrected, was adopted.*

Draft resolution A/C.5/63/L.11: Conditions of service and compensation for officials other than Secretariat officials: members of the International Court of Justice and judges and ad litem judges of the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia and the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda

46. *Draft resolution A/C.5/63/L.11 was adopted.*

Draft resolution A/C.5/63/L.23: Questions relating to the programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009

47. **Mr. Abelian** (Secretary of the Committee) said that the following paragraphs should be inserted after section II, paragraph 3, of the draft resolution:

> "4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the Director of the Unit continues to be provided, for 2009, through secondment;
>
> 5. *Decides* to revert to this issue in the context of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2010-2011."

48. **Mr. Ramadan** (Lebanon) said that his delegation wished to introduce an amendment to section XI of draft resolution A/C.5/63/L.23 on estimates in respect of special political missions, good offices and other political initiatives authorized by the General Assembly and/or the Security Council. The proposed amendment, to be inserted after paragraph 3, was in line with the concerns that had been raised by his delegation on the introduction of the Secretary-General's report on the matter (A/63/346 and Corr.1, Add.1 and Corr.1 and 2 and Add.2-5). It was also in line with the intention expressed by the Secretariat to provide a revised report during the first part of the resumed session.

49. Recalling that the resource requirements being considered by the Committee included those for the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for the implementation of Security Council resolution 1559 (2004), he said that his delegation believed that positive developments had occurred since the adoption of General Assembly resolution 62/238 V. The resumption in Lebanon of the political process known as the national dialogue, as well as the recent developments in relations between Lebanon and the Syrian Arab Republic, especially following the summit meeting of the Lebanese and Syrian Presidents, including progress achieved in the establishment of diplomatic relations and the decision to set up permanent diplomatic missions, were issues that related to the mandate of the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for the implementation of Security Council resolution 1559 (2004), as confirmed by the Security Council in its resolutions 1559 (2004) and 1680 (2006) and the related statements of its President.

50. Those positive developments attested to the validity of his delegation's consistent position since the

France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Abstaining:

Cameroon, Malawi, Panama, Timor-Leste.

56. *The oral amendment to section XI of draft resolution A/C.5/63/L.23 was adopted by 86 votes to 50, with 4 abstentions.**

57. *Draft resolution A/C.5/63/L.23, as orally amended, was adopted as a whole.*

Contingency fund: consolidated statement of programme budget implications and revised estimates (A/C.5/63/20)

58. **Ms. Van Buerle** (Director, Programme Planning and Budget Division), introducing the report of the Secretary-General on the contingency fund: consolidated statement of programme budget implications and revised estimates (A/C.5/63/20), said that the balance of the contingency fund was $12,191,000, after taking into account charges approved during the main part of the sixty-second session of the General Assembly. Were the Committee to approve all expenditure detailed in the annex to the report, the charge against the contingency fund would be $7,069,000 net. Accordingly, the Committee should request the General Assembly to note that a balance of $5,122,000 would remain in the fund.

59. **The Chairman** proposed that the Committee should recommend to the General Assembly that it should note that a balance of $5,122,000 remained in the contingency fund.

60. *It was so decided.*

* The delegation of the Solomon Islands subsequently informed the Committee that it had intended to vote for the adoption of the proposed oral amendment to section XI, while the delegation of Trinidad and Tobago informed the Committee that it had wished to abstain from voting.

The meeting was suspended at 2.45 a.m. and resumed at 3.35 a.m.

Draft report of the Fifth Committee (A/C.5/63/L.24)

61. **The Chairman** drew attention to the draft report and invited the Committee to take a decision on the recommendations contained in chapter IV.

Draft resolution I: Questions relating to the programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009

Draft resolution II: Development-related activities

Draft resolution III: Strengthening of the Department of Political Affairs

Draft resolution IV: Information and communications technology, enterprise resource planning, and security, disaster recovery and business continuity

Draft resolution V: Programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009

62. **The Chairman** recalled that draft resolutions I, II, III and IV had been adopted earlier in the meeting. In respect of draft resolution V, he said that section A dealt with revised budget appropriations for the biennium 2008-2009, section B with revised income estimates for the biennium 2008-2009, and section C with financing of the appropriations for the year 2009.

63. *Draft resolution V was adopted.*

Draft decision I: United Nations Fund for International Partnerships

Draft decision II: Rental of office space in the Secretariat by the Group of 77 and China (A/C.5/63/L.24)

64. **The Chairman**, recalling that draft decision I on the United Nations Fund for International Partnerships had been orally introduced and adopted at a previous meeting, invited the Committee to take a decision on draft decision II on the rental of office space in the Secretariat by the Group of 77 and China.

65. *Draft decision II was adopted.*

66. **The Chairman** said that he would take it that the Committee wished to adopt the draft report of the Fifth Committee on the programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009 (A/C.5/63/L.24).

67. *The draft report of the Fifth Committee was adopted.*

Agenda item 117: Review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations (*continued*) (A/C.5/63/L.26 and A/C.5/63/L.29)

Draft resolution A/C.5/63/L.26: Proposed programme budget outline for the biennium 2010-2011

68. **Ms. Van Buerle** (Director, Programme Planning and Budget Division) said that, in paragraph 8 of the draft resolution, the figure for the preliminary estimate should be $4,871,048,700, while the figure for the preliminary estimate in paragraph 21 should be $36,532,900.

69. *Draft resolution A/C.5/63/L.26, as orally corrected, was adopted.*

Draft decision A/C.5/63/L.29: Questions deferred for future consideration

70. **Mr. Abelian** (Secretary of the Committee) said that, in section B of the draft resolution, all references to documents on the scale of assessments listed under agenda item 122 should be deleted and replaced with references to the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Joint Inspection Unit on a common payroll for the United Nations system organizations (A/60/582) and to the note by the Secretary-General transmitting his comments and those of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination on the report of the Joint Inspection Unit on a common payroll for the United Nations system organizations (A/60/582/Add.1).

71. *Draft decision A/C.5/63/L.29, as orally corrected, was adopted.*

72. **Mr. Yamazaki** (Controller) said that the Secretariat would need to enter into limited commitments in the early part of 2009 as a result of associated costs related to the capital master plan, which were detailed in the report of the Secretary-General on the subject (A/63/582). Since the Fifth Committee and the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions had been unable to consider the report at the main part of the session, he wished to point out that activities concerning the capital master plan were related to ongoing operations and that a slowdown in those operations would result in a considerable disadvantage to the Organization. While the Fifth Committee would clearly need time to consider the Secretary-General's report, any delay in the implementation of the activities related to the capital master plan would add substantial and unnecessary costs, and should thus be avoided. That would require the Secretariat to enter into limited commitments for the early part of 2009, within available resources and drawing on the available cash balance in the capital master plan account, pending a review of the report by the Fifth Committee at the resumed part of the sixty-third session of the General Assembly. Any further expenditure that might have an impact on assessed funds under the regular budget and the peacekeeping support account would not be made without the express approval of the Assembly.

Closure of the work of the Fifth Committee at the main part of the sixty-third session of the General Assembly

73. **The Chairman** declared that the Fifth Committee had completed its work at the main part of the sixty-third session of the General Assembly.

The meeting rose at 3.50 a.m.